

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the above amendments and arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1-36 were previously pending in the instant application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1-36 are subject to a restriction requirement. By the above amendment, Claims 1, 11, 17 and 27-36 have been amended and Claims 2-10, 14-16 and 19-26 have been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 1, 11-13, 17, 18 and 27-36 are now pending in this application.

Response to Election/Restriction Requirement:

Within the Office Action, Claims 1-36 have been restricted to three groups: Group I includes Claims 1-18 and 24-26; Group II includes Claims 19-23; and Group III includes Claims 27-36. Applicants respectfully elect Group I. By the above amendment, Claims 19-26 have been canceled. Also, by the above amendment, Claims 27-36 have all been amended to be dependent upon the independent Claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now all in condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he is encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss them so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Dated: June 30, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP.

Date: 6-30-04 By: Jonathan O. Owens